

Commander's Intent: (Video Clip)



Hi. I'm Roger Nadeau, Commanding General of the U.S. Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command. I'd like to take a few moments to discuss RDECOM, and more importantly, to discuss our roadmap for the next five years by introducing the 2007 RDECOM Strategic Plan. As you know, a strategic plan is a blueprint for an organization that lays out a path for fulfilling the organization's vision. This plan is no different.

The intent of this Strategic Plan is to articulate the overall Command direction, and goals, objectives and strategic initiatives toward achieving those ends. Due to the depth, breadth and diversity of all subordinate organizations within the Command, it wouldn't be prudent to prescribe a one-size-fits-all approach. Subordinate organizations within RDECOM should follow the spirit and intent of **what** is promulgated in this plan. **How** it is implemented at the local level should follow a common sense approach at the point of execution.

The formation of RDECOM may not have had a noticeable personal impact on all 13,800 individuals working within the Command. For most of you, not a whole lot has changed in the last three years since RDECOM's inception. Independently, you've always done great things for the Army and our joint forces - that's why today's forces are unmatched in their lethality, mobility and survivability across the full spectrum of conflict. But imagine what we can accomplish collectively when we integrate the capabilities across the Army's lab and R&D Centers. This is precisely why RDECOM was created.

By consolidating Army Research & Development at the lowest possible Command level, the Army has created the right operating environment to facilitate collaboration, which is absolutely imperative for an Army at war and an Army transitioning to meet the needs of the future. The Army now has an organizational construct that provides a more effective and efficient mechanism to harness the collective Army RD&E organizations to get the right expertise working on a problem. And it's not always the local or traditional solution. Today, we're able to capitalize on the unprecedented capabilities existing across RDECOM to optimize decisive technology solutions to the Warfighter, where it's needed, and when it's needed.

Let me assure you that the benefits of the Command are being realized by the Warfighter and Combatant Commanders, by ASA (AL&T), by the LCMCs, and PEOs/PMs and by TRADOC. And we're just beginning to scratch the surface!

My mission as Commander of RDECOM is to continue to mature the Command by judiciously executing the Army's strategic vision for RD&E; to ensure that the Army's RD&E program provides the greatest return on investment for the Warfighter and the taxpayers; to achieve even better performance by facilitating continuous improvement and focus on our customers; and to instill a culture of innovation and collaboration throughout the Command and throughout the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) research and development (R&D) activities in order to optimize technical solutions, reduce redundancies, and create an environment where all employees have an opportunity to develop to their maximum potential.

Over the next five years, RDECOM will continue to leverage science and technology in order to advance major acquisition programs for the Army and the Joint Force. The most notable of these programs is the Future Combat System – the Army's primary transformation effort and most critical investment. In addition, we will develop and transition technologies in support of the Soldier and Soldier support systems, ammunition programs, extended air defense systems, LandWarNet operational capabilities and the restructuring of Army Aviation through modernization of aircraft systems. As the Army undergoes transformation from divisions to modular, brigade-based combat teams with joint expeditionary capabilities, RDECOM will adapt its science and technology solutions to better support the transformation.

This strategy documents a roadmap for our journey forward as we continue to support the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), the current force and the Army transformation. Let's all do our part to make RDECOM's vision a reality!

RDECOM's Vision: Be the world leader in rapid, innovative research, development and engineering for the Warfighter.